### URGENT Palliative Care Program

**Application for Registration Process**

*Urgent = patient requires immediate attention, urgent symptom management, home care services or admission to hospital*

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**Evaluate if the patient meets palliative program criteria:**

- **WRHA**
  - diagnosis of life-limiting illness
  - estimated prognosis less than or equal to 6 months
  - "do not attempt resuscitation" status established
  - not undergoing or planning a course of treatment with expectations of monitoring for and intervening for complications

- **Rural RHA**
  - contact individual RHA to obtain details on eligibility criteria
  
  **Note:** Application is sent to RHA where municipal taxes are paid or the region where the first nations reserve is geographically located

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**Does the patient require admission?**

- Yes
  - Explore goals of care and appropriate resources required to meet patient needs
    - Access CCMB Pain & Symptom Physician on call (see schedule) or CCMB Transition & Palliative Care Clinical Nurse Specialist at 204-235-3363
    - WRHA Palliative Care Program can be consulted in any care setting for issues related to life-limiting illness.
    - Rural resources vary.

- No
  - Explore Options for Admission
    1. Hospital (urban or rural) via emergency department or direct admission to ward
    2. In Winnipeg: contact WRHA Palliative Care Program at: 204-237-2400 to inquire about bed availability. If after hours a Physician may contact the Palliative Care Physician on call through StB Paging at 204-237-2053.

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**Complete Palliative Care Program and Manitoba Palliative Care Drug Access Program (PCDAP) Applications**

- **Phone palliative care program to alert of urgent application and discuss patient/family needs**
- Require patient signature (PCDAP)
- Require physician/NP signature
- Ensure patient/family aware of application
- Discuss advance care planning
  - Health Care Directive

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**Notice of Expected Death at Home**

- Complete if death is imminent
- Require physician signature
- Discuss patient choice of funeral home
- Complete letter (see J drive)
  - provide copy to pt/family
  - fax to: funeral home, medical examiner’s office (fax #: 204-945-2442), primary care provider, and palliative care program

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**Ensure Primary Care Provider Aware of Transition to Palliative Care**

- Communicate that palliative application completed
- Request urgent contact with patient for discussion/management of:
  - advance care planning
  - symptom issues

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**Consider Psychosocial Needs**

- Assess current services or notify current CCMB clinician of referral
- Palliative care program may have psychosocial resources that can be accessed. Contact palliative care coordinator to request

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**Keep in mind that rural/remote areas may have limited home care services available**

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**All palliative care forms, info and handouts available on the J drive, in the “Palliative Care” folder**

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**First Nations, Métis and Inuit Cancer Control** can be accessed at: 1-855-881-4395.

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**Palliative Care Program Information**

If questions, call the palliative care program directly. WRHA palliative care program inquiries can be directed to 204-237-2400. Rural contact info varies.

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**CCMB Resources Contact Information**

If questions, call CCMB CNS - Transition & Palliative Care at: Tel. 204-235-3363 Pager 204-931-3061 or the CCMB Pain & Symptom Physician on call

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*An algorithm for non-urgent palliative care application process is also available*

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